

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 PC-04 CU-04 OMB-01 NIC-01 RSR-01 /115 W

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R 051602 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6901

INFO USCINCSO

AMCONSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 2743

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, CO

SUBJECT: NEW ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

1. FOLLOWING THE PEACEFUL COMPLETION IN MID MARCH OF THE SPECIAL SEVEN- WEEK SESSION SCHEDULED TO ALLOW FOR TERMINATION OF COURSES INTERRUPTED BY LAST YEAR'S STUDENT PROTESTS AND GOVT INTERVENTION AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CAMPUS IN BOGOTA, THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY INITIATED THE FIRST SEMESTER OF 1973 ON APRIL2, 1973 FOR 700 NEW STUDENTS.

2. THE MATRICULATION OF THESE NEW STUDENTS HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS A " TRIAL BY FIRE" FOR ACTIVIST STUDENT LEADERS, SINCE MOST FACULTIES HAVE BEEN INSESSION SINCE FEBRUARY IN AN ATMOSPHERE NOTABLE FOR THE ABSENCE OF VIOLENCE.

3. TWO OF THE TEN FACULTIES OF THE BOGOTA CAMPUS OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY REMAIN TOTALLY OR PARTIALLY CLOSED AND ARE NOT SCHEDULED TO REOPEN UNTIL THE SECOND SEMESTER BEGINS IN AUG, FOLLOWING SUBSTANTIAL REORGANIZATION. THE FACULTIES AFFECTED ARE THOSE OF AGRONOMY AND JUMANITIES (IDENTIFIED BY THE COLOMBIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, AS CENTERS OF SUBVERSION).

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AGRONOMY REMAINS COMPLETELY CLOSED, AND THE HUMANITIES, ONLY
THE DEPARTMENTS OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION. ACCOUNTING AND
LANGUAGES
ARE FUNCTIONING NORMALLY.

4. THE RECTOR OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, LUIS DUQUE GOMEZ.
EMPHASIZED HIS DETERMINATION TO INSURE CONTINUED ACADEMIC
TRANQUILITY
AND HIS CONVICTION THAT THE STUDENTS WERE TIRED OF LOSING THEIR
TIME AS THE RESULT OF INTERNAL CHAOS AND NOW WANT NORMALITY.
ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, DUQUE GOMEZ CONTINUES TO ENJOY
FULL GOVT SUPPORT FOR HIS REORGANIZATION OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

5. COMMENT: NUMEROUS EXPULSIONS AND STERN DISCIPLINARY MEASURES
APPEAR TO HAVE SAPPED ACTIVIST ENERGIES, RESOURCES AND ENTHUSIASM.
FOR THE MOMENT, AT LEAST, THE PROSPECTS APPEAR GOOD THAT THE FIRST
SEMESTER OF 1973 AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY WILL BE RELATIVELY
QUIET.
SACCIO

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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